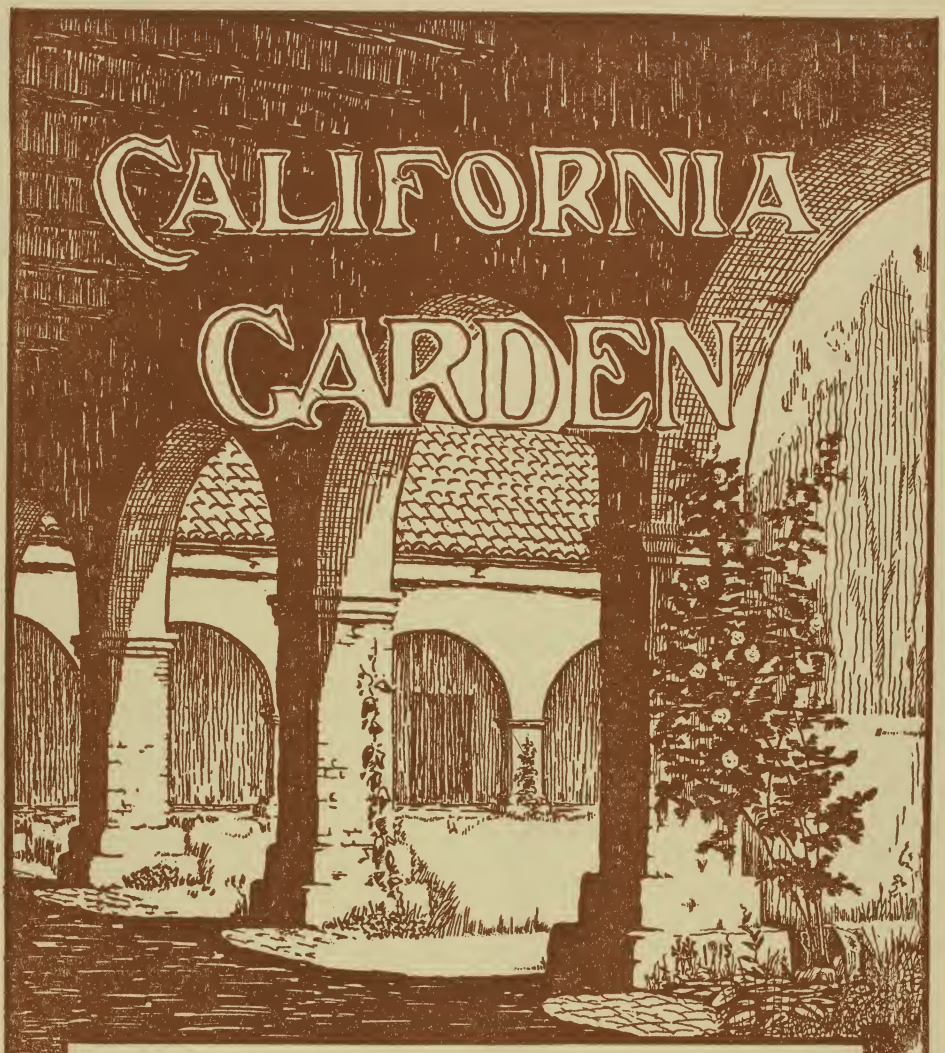
Mrs. Robt. Morrison (M) 3-27
3353 Albatross St.

CALIFORNIA GARDEN



IN THIS NUMBER

CONSERVATION OF WILD FLOWERS
THE WEB OF LIFE
ENVIRONMENT
GARDEN NOTES

APRIL, 1927 TEN CENTS

ROSE SPRAYS

we wish to inform ROSARIANS that we now have in stock the CELEBRATED FUNGTROGEN and INSECTROGEN ROSE SPRAYS, conceded by those who know to be the MOST UP-TO-DATE ROSE SPRAY. These SPRAYS CONTROL practically all the ILLS that affect ROSES and at the same time stimulate growth of FLOWERS and FOLIAGE. Sold in half pints, pints and quarts.

DAHLIAS. Our full stock has now arrived and we can supply you with over SEVENTY DIFFERENT VARIETIES of CHOICE BULBS. Ask for descriptive price list.

THE LAWN. NOW is the BEST TIME to plant your Lawn. We always have the BEST in LAWN SEED. Ask for our PRACTICAL PRINTED DIRECTIONS on LAWN MAKING.

HARRIS SEED CO.

"The Seed Service Store"

Sixth Street at E

The magazine—"California Garden," a practical local guide published monthly for 18 years. Subscription $1.00 per year.

The official organ of the San Diego Floral Association, now in its 21st year of continuous activities.

All interested in garden matters and civic beautification are invited to join. Dues $1.00 per year. Magazine and Membership combined $1.50 per year. P. O. Box 323, San Diego.

The California Garden

Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association
One Dollar per Year, Ten Cents per Copy

Vol. 18 SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, APRIL, 1927 No. 10

PREMIUM LIST

Twentieth Annual Spring Show, Roses and other flowers, Saturday and Sunday, April 23 and 24, 1927, Main Plaza, Balboa Park, opening Saturday 2 p. m. Admission 25 cents.

Section "A" Amateurs

*1. Best Collection of Roses—not less than 12 varieties and not more than 3 blooms of a kind. (Association Cup.)
*2. Best 6 varieties of Roses—not more than 3 blooms of a kind. (American Rose Society Silver Medal.)
*3. Best Collection of Roses—not more than 1 bloom of a kind. (American Rose Society Bronze Medal.)
3a. Best Rose in the Show. (Trophy—Membership in American Rose Society.)
4. Best Three White Roses, one variety.
5. Best Three Red Roses, one variety.
6. Best Three Yellow Roses, one variety.
7. Best Three Yellow Shaded Roses, one variety.
8. Best Three Pink Roses, one variety.
9. Best Three Pink Shaded Roses, one variety.
10. Best Three Flame Colored Roses, one variety (example Mde. Herriott).
11. Best One White Rose.
12. Best One Pink Rose.
13. Best One Yellow Rose.
14. Best One Red Rose.
15. Best One Crimson Rose.
16. Best Single Rose (example Isobel or Irish Elegance).
17. Best Display of Polyantha or Baby Roses.
18. Best Display of Climbing Roses.
19. Best Rose not before shown in San Diego.
20. Best Six Red Roses, one variety.
21. Best Six Los Angeles Roses.
22. Best Six any other variety Roses.
23. Best Arranged Vase, Bowl or Dish of Roses, Greenery allowed.
*24. Best Arranged Basket of Roses. Greenery allowed.

Section "B" Amateurs

*25. Best Collection Sweet Peas, not less than 15 stems.
26. Best Vase White Sweet Peas.
27. Best Vase Light Pink Sweet Peas.
28. Best Vase Dark Pink Sweet Peas.
29. Best Vase Red Sweet Peas.
30. Best Vase Lavender Sweet Peas.
31. Best Vase Blue Sweet Peas.
32. Best Vase Purple Sweet Peas.
33. Best Vase Salmon Sweet Peas.
34. Best Vase Maroon Sweet Peas.
35. Best Vase Bicolor Sweet Peas.
Limit 20 sprays in classes 26 to 35.
36. Best Arranged Basket of Sweet Peas.
37. Best Arranged Bowl of Sweet Peas.
*Sweet Pea Sweepstakes.

Section "C" Amateurs

*38. Best Arranged Basket of Flowers other than Roses.
39. Best Arranged Basket of Wild Flowers.
40. Best Arrangement of Flowers in Bowl, Vase or Dish.
41. Best Flowering Plant for the house.
42. Best Individual Specimen Decorative Plant.
43. Best Cut Specimen Flowering Vine.
*44. Best Display of Bulb Flowers.
45. Best Display of Gladiolus.
*46. Best Display of Iris.
47. Best Display of Pansies.
48. Best Display of Wild Flowers grown by an individual.
*49. Best Display from a 50 foot or less lot. Trophy.
*50. Best Display from a private garden larger than fifty feet.. Trophy.
*51. Best Display from Civic, State or National institution.
52. Best Display Cinerarias, Dwarf Hybrid.
53. Best Display of Cinerarias, Stellata.
54. Best Potted Cinerarias, Dwarf Hybrid.
55. Best Potted Cinerarias, Stellata.
56. Best Display of Pelargoniums or Lady Washington Geraniums.
57. Best Display of Geraniums.
58. Best Display of Delphiniums.
59. Best Display of Stocks.
60. Best Display of Snapdragons.
61. Best Display of Calendulas.
62. Best Display of Larkspurs.
63. Best Display any other flowers not otherwise classified.
64. Best Collection of Succulents and Cacti.
65. Best Collection of Rock Garden Plants,

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F. A. BODE

Landscape Gardener

Trees,
Shrubs,
Bedding Plants,
Roses,

Complete Collection of Plants suitable for San Diego.

Bode's Nursery

PHONE
HILLCREST 2825-J

SALESYARD
1260 UNIV. AVE.

other than above.

*66. Best Collection of Begonias, Ferns and House Palms.

66a. Best One Specimen Fibrous Begonia.

66b. Best One Specimen Rex Begonia Grown in Pot or other receptacle.

66c. Best Specimen Maidenhair Fern.

Section "D" Children Classes

*67. Best Collection of Wild Flowers by any school in city.

*68. Best Collection of Wild Flowers by any school in county, outside city.

Section "E" for Professionals
(Entries by Nurserymen)

*69. Best Display of Cut Roses.

70. Best Collection of Rose Bushes in Bloom.

71. Best General Display of Cut Flowers other than Roses.

72. Best Display of Sweet Peas—separate varieties.

*73. Best General Display of Shrubs and Plants.

74. Best Display of Everlasting Flowers.

75. Best Display of Bulb Flowers.
(Entries by Florists)

*76. Best Arranged Basket, Bowl or Vase of Cut Flowers.

*Classes in which Trophies are offered. Handsome ribbons for first and second in all classes.

RULES

1. All exhibits must be in place and properly entered by 10 a. m. of first day of show so that judging may be completed and awards made before opening. All vases, baskets, etc., belonging to exhibitors, must be called for Monday morning, not later than 11:00 o'clock. No exhibitor will be allowed to be present while judging is going on.
2. All entries must be in the hands of the clerks by 9 a. m. of the first day of show. Clerks will be on duty at 7:30 a. m. and entries will be received at any time between these hours.
3. All pot plants must have been in the possession of the exhibitor at least three months; all other flowers and plants except collected wild flowers must have been grown by the exhibitor, except where used for table decoration.
4. The committee on awards is authorized to give suitable award for any meritorious exhibit not included in classes named above.
5. Exhibits can be entered in one class only.
6. Vases are loaned without charge for cut flowers in the competitive classes.
7. Exhibits are, from the commencement of the show, under the jurisdiction of the show officials, and no exhibit shall be removed before the close of the show without the authority of the official in charge.
8. Entries will not be considered by judges unless meritorious.
9. All exhibits must be labeled with the correct names of the plants on white cards 2x3 inches, which will be furnished without charge. Names of exhibitors in competitive classes positively must not appear on exhibits until after awards have been made. (Entries in Class 51 excepted from this rule.)
10. In classes where a given number of blooms is specified, any excess or deficiency of count shall constitute cause for disqualification.
13. Sweet Peas will be judged by length of stem, color, size, substance and number of flowers on stem.
14. The Floral Association invites exhibits, however small, if meritorious. Exhibits of single specimen of flowers or plants will be duly considered. No fee is charged for making entries in this show. Special reservations of space may be made by telephone with Secretary Hill, Main 0605. Where exhibits are to be of any considerable size, it is advisable to make reservations in advance.

Roses—Roses will be judged according to the Standards of the American Rose Society.

FLOWER SHOW
April 23rd and 24th

ARRIVAL OF A NEW FLOWER

In April, 1925, Mr. David Fairchild was in Morocco collecting rare plants in the Atlas Mountains. In the summer of 1926 I received four sorts of bulbs that he had collected. On March 5, 1927, one lot of those bulbs was in full bloom at my new garden on Soledad Terrace, Pacific Beach. The name of this new bulb is Leucojum trichophyllum, from the forests of Mamova, Robat. It is a very dainty and beautiful flower, milk white, six petals about one inch long and in the morning the bell-shaped flower spreads out flat and in the late afternoon petals droop and form a decided bell. The leaves are like green threads, not many to a bulb. The bulbs were the size of a filbert nut.

Next year these new Leucopums should produce longer stems and at least two flower stalks to a bulb and in time become one of our choice Spring blooming bulbs.

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Leucojum Aestivum and L. Hyemale are two other varieties listed in foreign catalogues and grown in European Botanic gardens.

Next year we must secure bulbs of these other varieties to be tested here for their beauty and hardiness.

K. O. SESSIONS.

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Besides the wealth of blooming bulbs at this season of the year, Feb. 15 to April 15, the early flowering shrubs are very desirable but in this mild climate so many of the deciduous shrubs are not a success. However, the gay colored and ornamental peaches and plums can be successfully grown and they are fine.

There is the early double flowering, rosy pink Peach, also a pale, flesh pink mixed with red—a sort of sport. There is the early red and the late red—both the same color. Also a very large and fine flowering double white Peach that is blooming at the same time as the red. Prunus pissardi is a brown leafed plum, with palest pink and blooms always in February. Another double flowering variety of a pink Plum that is elegant and in full bloom in late February and early March.

The hardy Japanese quince bears fairly well in San Diego—but requires some age to give good returns. All the above mentioned bloom before the leaves appear. These deciduous fruit tree blossoms are for us a substitute for the cherry blossoms in Japan. Cherries are fine in our mountains.

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FIFTY MEDICINAL PLANTS

By Fidella G. Woodcock
Curator of Plants, Natural History Museum, San Diego.
(Continued from March Issue)

28. **Achillea millefolium**—"Woundwort."—Common Yarrow. Used for an unguent in healing open cuts and wounds.

29. **Eriodictyon glutinosum** — "Mountain Balm"—Hierba santa.

30. **Eriodictyon crassifolium** — Woolly Yerba Santa. U. S. Pharmacopeia. Solution from foliage used for colds, fevers, rheumatism.

31. **Quassia amara**—Bitter Wood. A bitter tonic is extracted from the wood. Introduced from Mexico.

32. **Rhamnus californicus** var. **tomentella** —Coffee Berry. Tonic purgative. Cascara bark is obtained from the shrub in smaller quantities than from the tree of the northern redwoods. **Rhamnus Purshiana**—Cascara **Sagrada.**

33. **Rumex hymenosepalus** — Tuberous-rooted Dock—Canaigre—Sorrel. Rhubarb substitute. Sandy plains.

34. **Helanthemum scoparium Aldersonii**—Rock-rose—Rush-rose—"Juanita" — "Frost-weed." Plant contains a volatile oil useful in medicine as a tonic and astringent. Formerly employed as a gargle in the treatment of scarlatina. Scrofula medicine.

35. **Fouquiera splendens**—"Coachwhip"—"Candlewood"—Ocatillo. Desert plant whose flowers are used for cough remedy; flowers and seeds edible.

36. **Frankenia grandifolia**—Alkali Heath—Yerba Reuma. Salt marshes and seashore. From the amount of sodium chloride it contains, is a remedy for catarrhal affections in nasal and urinary passages. Also F. Palmeri.

37. **Psidium guajava** — Guava — Guayaba. A decoction of the buds is good to relieve diarrhea; the leaves are a remedy for itch and the bark steeped in water is applied to ulcers, and taken internally for pains in the stomach. Introduced from tropics.

38. **Cornus species**—Dogwood. A quinine substitute is made from the bark.

39. **Garrya veatchii** — Silk-tassel Tree — Quinine Bush. The bitter leaves contain garryine, an alkaloid used in California as a tonic and anti-periodic.

40. **Styrax officinale**—Storax. **Styrax californica** yields the substance of Egyptian gum perfume applied in medicine as **"storax officinalis."**

41. **Tamarix gallica** — "Tamarisk"—"Salt Cedar"—Tamarisco. Endures salt and alkali, growing in the ocean spray. All parts of the tree are consequently bitter—a tonic, an astringent, a diuretic and sleep-inducer.

42. **Euphorbia albo-marginata** — Spurge—Yerba del Vibora.

43. **Euphorbia misera.** The milky juice is an antidote for rattlesnake bite.

44. **Grindelia robusta** — "Gum-plant." Poison oak remedy.

45. **Gutierrezia californica** — Gutierrezia. Three species. A liniment plant of the Spanish people.

46. **Galium trifidum**—Cleavers. A tonic. Croupweed." Bogs and Marshes.

47. **Rhus ovata**—"Sugar bush." Juice used for making cough syrup. The leaves when medicinally used are applied for pains in the chest.

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49. **Hyptis albida.** Desert plants used in allaying fevers. Oil for earache and for rheumatism.

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The April and May Gardens

APRIL GARDENS

By Mary Matthews.

With the wane of spring flowers do not think your gardens need be bare through the summer, perennials are coming on many of them are very gay and bloom a long time. One of the most constant bloomers among them are the Hemerocallis, the old fashioned daisy lily. There are numerous hybrids to be had now, and a row of them is seldom without bloom, likewise Gaillardias and Coreopsis, these three, taken care of now will give bloom all summer—not a special favorite with me but liked by many are the Geums, Mrs. Bradshaw, a double red and Lady Stratheden, a clear yellow. Among the blue flowered subjects are Saeria Farinacea, Ageratums and all of the Hardy Asters range from blue to deep purple shading down to lavender. Keep the ground around all of these well worked and as the dry season comes on give ample moisture, also keep all seed pods cut off. To prolong the season of bulbs lilies can still be planted. This is also the time for Gladiolus, Dahlias, Tigridias and Monbretias. Of course you are going to grow some "mums" for the show this fall.

Continue to put out hardy annuals, I say put out (plant) these as it is a little late for seed sowing for most of them. This, though, is a very favorable time for sowing seeds of three that everyone likes, Asters, Zinnias and Cosmos; Marigolds, likewise, will grow any time and anywhere. A great many persons prefer the tall French variety, which come in all shades of yellow, brown and dull red. A good bed of Phlox Drummondi will give you bloom all through the summer. It is almost impossible to over estimate the value of hardy annuals for the flower garden, that is, if you are willing to give the time to them for they require good care if you are to have blooms and plenty of them.

Two favorites of mine in the summer garden are Verbenas and Petunias. All that I have mentioned can be procured in small plants from any reliable seeds man.

CHULA VISTA FLOWER SHOW

The Chula Vista Flower Show will be held on the afternoon of April 30th and all day May 1st, at the Grammar School, on F street, Chula Vista. Mrs. C. W. Darling is chairman of the show.

THE GARDEN

The continued coolness and cloudiness combined with moisture in the air makes it favorable for setting out plants in any well prepared soil, with the possible exception of heavy soils with north exposures where your plants are likely to remain at a stand still until we have warmer weather conditions.

There are many good bedding plants available at this time of year and owing to the lateness of the season there are a large number of them that can be planted now.

The Double Stock Flowered Larkspur coming in colors of lilac, pink, lavender, carmine and dark blue planted in beds or as a back ground for lower growing plants will make a fine showing during the summer.

Coreopsis, about two feet high, large showy bright yellow flowers and a constant bloomer will do well with a minimum amount of care.

Delphinium, both Belladonna and Hybrid types, are tall graceful plants, very free blooming and an acquisition to any garden. The Belladonna is a beautiful shade of light blue, growing three to five feet high, and the Hybrids come in many shades of blue including sapphire, turquoise, and indigo with many intervening shades, growing two and a half feet in height and if well cared for and the old stems cut out they will bloom the greater part of the year.

African Marigold, either seed or plants, will flower during summer and fall, producing tall, showy large double flowers of deep orange and lemon yellow color.

Pansy plants are late in blooming this year and are in fine condition for planting now and will produce abundance of flowers for months to come. Can be planted in either semi-shade or sunshine.

Pentstemon, two to three feet high, free flowering and easily cared for, coming in bell-shaped flowers of various shades of pink, red and purple, beautifully spotted and marked.

Petunias, both double and single. Plant in sunny location, will bloom almost continuously and coming in many charming colors from rose pink to deepest violet.

Salpiglossis, beautiful annuals, blooming all the summer, about one and a half feet tall and producing funnel shaped flowers, beautifully veined and shaded in many colors including yellow, pink, crimson, blue, purple, violet, etc. Plant in sunny location.

Scarlet Sage, two to three feet high, planted in sunny location, will produce daz-

(Continued on Page 14)

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

The California Garden

Editor
R. R. McLean
Associate Editors
Miss Mary Matthews
Alfred D. Robinson

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EDITORIAL

CONSERVATION OF WILD FLOWERS

A more or less country wide campaign of education is being undertaken by garden clubs, nature organizations and interested individuals to conserve our wild flowers and save many of them from almost certain destruction. Insofar as it has for its object not a total prohibition of the picking of wild flowers, but rather that the public may be taught what flowers to pick, or not to pick, and when and how to pick them, the campaign will certainly have the support of al right thinking pepole. Perhaps, however, legislation may even have to be enacted to curb some who are not open to reason.

Several very practical suggestions concerning the picking of wild flowers have recently come to the attention of the Editor. One set is contained in a simply worded, artistic leaflet written and published by Mrs. Mira C. Saunders, wife of Charles Francis Saunders, the noted wild flower authority. Mrs. Saunders' letter to Mr. A. D. Robinson concerning the purpose of the leaflet is reproduced below, followed by the suggestions referred to.

Other similar suggestions apear in a circular published by the Garden Club of Los Angeles, under the heading, "Help Save the Wild Flowers". We are glad to reprint and endorse this also.

Finally comes another article from the publication, "Iowa State Parks", with the very suggestive title, "What makes the Wild Flowers Wild". After reading what is happening to wild flower life all over the country, one can appreciate this title.

The Editor commends these three articles as dealing with the subject in a reasonable and understandable manner.

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580 North Lake Avenue,
Pasadena, California,
March 21, 1927.

Dear Mr. Robinson:

I am enclosing a Wild Flower Conservation leaflet which, with Mr. Saunders' aid, I prepared a year ago, mainly for distribution at a flower show with which we were assisting here in Pasadena. We have distributed about a thousand of them where it seemed they might serve the purpose, if only in a slight degree, of staying the hand of progress when it seems to include in its program so much of destruction. Mr. Shackleford, who is head of the nature work here in the public schools, was glad to have the leaflets and had the children use the contents as a copy book exercise.

It occurs to me that it would be a very good thing indeed if there could be a **State** wild flower preservation society, which could furnish information to clubs (many of which now have conservation sections), and also sponsor intelligent education and legislation. I feel very keenly that education of the public is better than absolutely prohibitory laws in regard to the picking of the wild flowers. We see that Riverside County has already made prohibitory laws against picking blossoms of Mountain Dogwood, Desert Lily, Lemon Lily, Western Azalea and Yucca Whipplei; and Los Angeles County has had a similar law for some time with regard to the Yucca. There is, too, the State law protecting the Toyon. A State wild flower preservation society would make it its business to know all these county and state laws (there may be others than I have mentioned) and could do much to meet a growing demand for something really worth while and effective towards saving the wild flowers. I feel that it is the right of the children of the future to have wild flowers to enjoy and to **pick.** As it is now the wild flower field each season becomes more and more remote, due mainly, I feel, to subdivisions.

After careful thought we made our leaflet anonymous, as we felt it could thus have a freer and wider distribution. I am sending it to you in case you should care to have it printed in the California Garden, and it occurs to me that the California Garden might sponsor the idea of a State wild flower preservation society. * * *

Sincerely yours,

MIRA C. SAUNDERS.

SOME SUGGESTIONS ON THE GATHERING OF WILD FLOWERS

Where there is one flower, leave it; where there are only a few, leave them; Nature needs their seeds for the next season.

1. When picking flowers that grow from bulbs, such as lilies, broadiaeas, mariposa tulips, fairy lanterns, chocolate lilies (or mission bells), alliums, etc., pinch off or cut the flower-stalk above the ground; do not pull it out of the bulb, as this injures the bulb and may prevent the next season's bloom. Never disturb the leaves of bulbous plants until they are brown and dry, as the green leaves are needed to feed and nourish the bulb for the next season.

2. Annuals renew themselves each season, so Nature needs that they scatter a multitude of their seeds; therefore be sure to leave plenty of each variety of annuals in any locality, such as California poppies, creamcups, tidy-tips, owl's clover, popcorn flowers, gilias, baby-blue-eyes, etc.

3. Perennials, such a lupines, wild pea, scarlet larkspur, blue larkspurs, scarlet bugler, violet beard-tongue and Indian paintbrush, should never be pulled up by their roots, because they grow through the years from the same roots. They depend also upon their seeds for their continuance.

4. Shrubby or woody plants, such as wild lilacs, sticky monkey-flower, manzanita, mountain mahogany, tree poppy, etc., when gathered should be clipped, as breaking the branches causes a wound which often results in disease to the plant.

If flowers by the side of trails and highways are left untouched, those who follow us may enjoy them also.

Yucca and California holly (or Christmas berry) are under the protection of the law.

A few blossoms arranged in a vase are more beautiful than a mass of them.

In conclusion, let us use the same thoughtfulness and care for the flowers in Nature's wild garden as we would for the flowers in our own gardens.

HELP SAVE THE WILD FLOWERS

HIKERS, HORSEBACK RIDERS AND MOTORISTS bring countless pickers, of every grade of science, eager to seize each rarity they see ,and children, too, pick with wasteful abandon unless they understand how destructive it is to their future pleasures to gather and throw away great quantities of perishable flowers, berries, and branches of trees. If such prodigal waste continues unchecked it will soon mean the destruction not alone of many of our rare and lovely plants but also of the food supplies on which our wild birds and animals live.

There are flowers in abundance if everyone picks in moderation, and a few simple cautions should be sufficient to make all real flower lovers pause before they pick wantonly.

First. Never gather too many flowers of one kind in any one locality, no matter how common it may appear. Perhaps this caution applies particularly to our California poppies, which grow in such profusion along our roadsides and in open fields where they are a great temptation to excursionists.

Second. If the roots of perennials come up easily when you pull them always use a knife or scissors, so that the plant may grow up another year even if you have taken away the source of the seeds.

Third. Flowers of annuals should be picked very sparingly because the supply of seeds is the only hope of the colony for the future.

Fourth. Do not break or tear off woody flowering branches; cut them close to the base so the wound may heal over and prevent fungous diseases from entering.

Fifth. Plants should be protected that produce edible fruits such as wild cherries, elderberries, dogwood, sumach, manzanita, hollyberries, currants and gooseberries, pines, oaks, huckleberries, black walnuts, hazelnuts, cactus, wild grapes and many others which give food and shelter both for our native birds and wild animals.

Sixth. Remember that most wild flowers soon fade after picking. They are frequently gathered in large quantities by automobile parties, hauled home and thrown away, when, if picked moderately, there would be plenty left to bloom and reseed themselves for the continued enjoyment of all visitors. In some localities the bule penstemon and the scarlet bugler have been practically exterminated by extravagant picking of the flowers. This is true particularly of the yellow violet, shooting star and wild wall flower. Our madrones are also being so rapidly destroyed that there are very few left at the present time.

Since there has been a heavy fine imposed by the state for picking yuccas these beautiful stately sentinels of the desert have multiplied so rapidly that the hillsides and public roads are again abloom with them in places where they had been almost entirely eradicated before the penalty was imposed. This is concrete proof of the importance and effectiveness of protection—and a little thought will go far toward eliminating the necessity for fining trespassers who are often merely thoughtless.

Seventh. Do not drop lighted matches, cigars or cigarettes in the woods or fields, or burn them intentionally, as burning destroys humus in the soil necessary for the growth of desirable plants and causes them to be replaced by troublesome weeds.

As our population increases and more territory is put under cultivation in California

the more urgent will be the need to take care of the remaining garden spots and wild life of our forests, hillsides and valleys; and everyone surely will wish to share the responsibility of preserving the natural beauties of this generously-endowed part of the world! The Garden Club of Los Angeles.

WHAT MAKES THE WILD FLOWERS WILD?

Mrs. Francis E. Whitley, chairman of Forestry and Wild Life Refuges of the General Federation, speaking on the above topic to students of the School of Wild Life Protection at McGregor, Iowa, answered her own question by saying: "More wild flowers are being displayed for sale now than ever before. Every magazine has its article on 'my wild flowers'. That must be the answer to wild plants and shrubs. By the irony of fate, the people who buy, without investigation, the lady sliper, jack-in-the-pulpit, and arbutus, stripped from their native haunts are the ones who tell you that they 'simply adore wild flowers'. That must be the answer to the question, 'What Makes the Wild Flowers Wild-' "

Mrs. Whitely advocates more state laws following the example of those already passed. Wisconsin passed an act making it an offense to pick the lotus of the Mississippi along her shores. In Washington the rhododendron was being shipped out by the carload. It was made a state flower, and a law enacted protecting it. In Virginia last winter the women were stirred by the advertisements of wholesale flower dealers of New York and Philadelphia for tons of holly at so much a pound. They foresaw the extinction of holly trees, and a law similar to that of Maryland was passed making it punishable by fine or imprisonment to take holly or other plants and shrubs from the land without permisson of the owner.

Besides the passing of laws by the different states, Mrs. Whitely advocates refusal to buy wild flowers or plants from street vendors or firms who cannot show where they are obtained. "There are dealers," she said, "who propagate wild flowers instead of destroying the treasures of the woods, and this is just as legitimate a business as to propagate and sell dahlias and irises."

NATIONAL CITY ROSE SHOW

Announcement has been made that the 17th annual National City Rose Show will be held at the Olivewood Club House on Tuesday, April 26th. In addition to a fine exhibition of roses, bulb flowers and sweet peas, booths will be installed for the display of fancy work, candy, baked goods, arts and crafts, and "white elephants".

GARDEN NOTES

I grow carnations because my husband likes them, he says they are such tidy flowers and "I do dislike the mussy ones," he adds. Everytime I go out to pick them I feel like remonstrating with them for their superfluity of buds. In fact it is hard to keep out of one's thought a slight sense of irritation— "Now really, old dears, it's all very well to do your part, but this is hardly necessary,— overdoing it a bit I call it."

Age Six runs into the garden and while picking a pansy transfers her interest to the lady bugs of whom she gathers quite a family and disappears into the house with them. She is back in a minute and murmurs as she runs by, like the Rabbit to Alice, "I'm all in a tremble to get some more—

When I go into lunch I find the table decorated with lady bugs who travel from dish to dish with their smallness and intensity accentuated by the broadness of the space upon which they move.

I am sitting in the garden sewing, while from time to time Age Two picks pansies and deposits them upon my lap where they lie in a profusion of color backgrounded by the pale blue material upon which I am sewing.

Pansies are, without a doubt, the most successfully sentimental individuals. King and Commoner both worship them. They verge on the maudlin and raise to heights of dignity and sublimity in the same breath. Very human.

Age Four adds petunias to the pile, the wavy purple pink ones and they add the correct note of color to the mass. How petunias have come up in the world. When I first started my garden, the gardener kept saying "Petunias" to me and each time I firmly replied "NO". Fifteen years ago petunias in my grandmother's garden were colorful and profuse but to me they lacked distinction. This they have gathered during their peregrination through the world.

One spring when I went away for six weeks, I returned to find Petunias blooming gaily in the ends of my rose bed. I succumbed gracefully and now I in turn have taken up the refrain of "Petunias". Particularly for winter blooming in California. They are such willing souls. On and on they go and cheer you in moments when the rain descends and the world is slithering slough of adobe mud.

My Padre roses I bought from a French philosopher who describes thus his loss in a flood of much good land by the riverside— "Well, I stand on my windmill and I watch the water carry him away, I watch and I watch and then I sing aloud a little bit of opera and I say to him, "'Tis yours, I will not dispute you, as for me I am young and I am strong I can work again." And my Padre's bloom forth carrying with them some of this philosophy. I am grateful for both.

M. A. L.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

STRAY THOUGHTS

By Peter D. Barnhart.

Californians, whether Native or Exotic abhor a vacuum in their gardens. In other words, they cannot endure the sight of a piece of ground, however small, without some sort of vegetation growing thereon.

A method I have of growing a crop of flowers in herbaceous perennial borders, such as Asters, Golden Rod, Rudbeckia and the like, is to plant Tritellia uniflora in the beds after the tops have been cut away. Once planted this bulbous rooted plant is there to stay. It begins to show its pretty procelain blue flowers about the first of February and so continues until the herbaceous plants want to show themselves. It belongs to the garlic tribe, and when the flowers are cut the garlic odor proclaims itself, but only for a short time. Freesias may be used for the same purpose, but do not last long, because they rot when water is applied to the host plants. Triteleias are not disturbed with any such treatment. They increase rather than diminish in numbers as the years roll round.

It comes to us from Argentina, and is now included in the family of Brodiaea, which beautifies the California landscape at this season of the year. While on this subject we may as well think of several of the other members of this Tribe-Liliaceae. Bloomeria aurea is one of them. Golden Stars is the common name applied to it, and aptly, because of the golden yellow color, of the many flowers on a scape. Then up north grows a wild onion known as Allium acuminatum. Even the papery bracts which envelop the flowers are beautifully colored, and when they open the pretty pink flowers are very attractive.

Just one more reference to this tribe, and that is the Floral Firecracker, Brodiaea coccinea, or, as Armstrong in her Western Wild Flowers names it, Brevoortia Ida-Maia. I wonder where she got the specifice name, and what it means in English.

No matter about the technical name, the common one is appropriate because the flowers are tubular, bright red, the end of the tube rolled back like unto the stockings of many modernly dressed girls. They are a shade loving plant, and at home they grow on stems three feet tall.

One of the quests of all gardeners is for plants which are perpetual bloomers.

Only in recent years have I learned that our native Sea Dahlia, Leptosyne maritima, is one such. Jepson in his new work places it is the family of Coreopsis, of the Compositae tribe. It is a tuberous rooted perennial, and if given water, never ceases to reward the gardener with its golden colored flowers, and for cutting, it is a world beater for lasting quality.

Gentle reader, I warn you, who live south of Santa Barbara, not to waste time with its sister; the shrubby species known as Leptosyne gigantea, that adorns the landscape up the coast. It refuses to fit into any scheme we may devise down this way.

Reverently I met with Chorizema Ilicifolium used as a bedding plant in a shrubbery, protected from the direct rays of the sun, and what a glorious sight it was. This writer does get an idea once in a while when traveling about, and this is one of them. The flowers were gorgeously colored, while their companions growing in the sun were bleached. Moreover, the little plants, not over a foot high, were dense bouquets. I guess there are some things we have yet to learn in this Southland, in the Art of Gardening.

It is an Australian subject, supposed to be drouth resistant, yet in the afore mentioned shrubbery, it got plenty of water, and thrived.

GOVERNMENT FLORICULTURAL GARDEN

At the March meeting of the San Diego Floral Association the speaker, Mr. A. F. Fischer, Director of the Bureau of Forestry, Philippine Islands, expressed himself as believing that San Diego was exceptionally well situated, geographically, and possessed of a particularly favorable climate for the location of a government floricultural introduction station. Mr. Fischer, who has been a visitor in San Diego for several months, stated that the government now maintains no garden solely for the introduction and propagation of foreign flowers and ornamental plants and that in his opinion nowhere in this country were conditions so suitable for the establishment of such a station as here. The purpose of a garden of this sort, it should be said, would be to introduce flowers and ornamental plants under proper safeguards from all parts of the world, then acclimatize and later distribute them throughout the United States.

Following Mr. Fischer's talk and an expression of interest and aproval on the part of the members of the Association, the President, Mrs. Greer, with the consent and encouragement of the Board of Directors, appointed a committee to confer with Mr. Fischer further. The committee consisted of Mr. W. H. Porterfield, Miss K. O. Sessions, Mr. Walter S. Merrill, Mr. Ernest E. White, and Mr. R. R. McLean. A preliminary conference was held a few days later and tentative plans adopted to feel out the proper officials of the U. S. Department of Agriculture as to the possibility of action being taken looking towards the consummation of such a project.

The officers and directors of the Floral Association feel that if some assurance of sympathetic consideration on the part of the government officials can be given to this plan, the many minor problems connected with securing and offering a definite site, obtaining local support, etc., can be easily handled.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

THE WEB OF LIFE

By Harry Johnson.

Civilization with all the varied and implied relationships of man to man and to his surroundings may be thought of as an epitome of Nature's tendency to complexity since our earth slowly whirled its way into being. Always has the simple reared upon itself an edifice of interlocking units each dependent upon the whole and the whole an entity only because of the nice fitting of its parts. Inanimate nature has so built and the living things that have peopled the earth since the seas first quickened with life have carried on the building, each surging forward of life an added story, each being a link in the chain of the past with the future.

To fully appreciate the far reaching relationships between the plant and the animal kingdoms it is necessary to go back millions of years and delve into the pages of the earth's history as we find it written in the rocks, turning back the leaves till the story of the great coal seams lies unfolded. The very different from those we see about us living things on the earth at that time were now. There were no warm blooded animals such as mice, horses or birds for animals were just beginning to live on the land, tentatively leaving the sea where life had begun and conquering a new environment. The amphibians who had reached their climax had given birth to the forerunners of the land reptiles who later ruled the earth.

The vast jungles covering the earth from pole to pole were not peopled with our common forest trees nor were the glades basking in the tropical sunshine carpeted with grass nor brilliant with flowers for these things so much a part of our present landscape that we cannot picture the world without them were shut away in Pandora's box of the future. Yet we must not think that the past presented a gloomy picture for life though different and strange to our eyes was just as vibrant then as now. The mild, moist climate suited the growth of plants and vegetation, riotous and luxuriant, clothed the land and overran the swamps. The tall shafts of strange trees towered upward some beset with small scale-like leaves similar to our own monkey puzzle trees others like giant scouring rushes and club mosses while hundreds more were of forms entirely unknown to us. The ferns held a more prominent place then than now, many thrusting plumy tufts through the forest roof unfurling their fronds above less ambitious neighbors. A tangle of mosses, prostrate ferns and liverworts grew under foot supporting a wealth of insect life upon which the larger animals fed. True insects were becoming more numerous and the various branches of the group were slowly differentiating.

There were no flowers such as we know nor did the trees spring from seeds for Nature was just discovering the usefulness of the seed habit and as yet had no need for bright flowers. The life cycle of the plant was similar to that of our present flowering plants but portions of it were long drawn out, our mosses and ferns presenting what was highest then. Instead of flowers and seeds the plants produced enormous quantities of bright yellow spores floating in the breeze or slowly settling in the calms in sulphur-like clouds. These sprouted and grew into flat green ribbons upon which the sexual organs were produced. After the motile sperms had sought the egg the resultant young plant grew into a replica of the plant that bore the spore. But this was a tedious and wasteful way of reproducing and Nature always seeking to improve her methods was trying a new experiment with some of the ferns. Instead of casting the spores into the air and the chance of the four winds she was making spores of two sizes, the smaller ones bearing only sperms the larger only eggs. The larger ones were being retained by the mother plant where they germinated and were nourished by the food she provided in abundance. Thus the green ribbon that formerly sprouted on the ground was becoming less useful for its purpose was to manufacture food for the development of the sexual organs the work that the mother plant now did, but Nature never wasteful utilized it to store away food for the tiny plantlet. The smaller spores were being produced in immense numbers in cone like structures from which the wind shook them in showers. On bright warm days they were wafted about chance placing some of them in the receptive chambers at the mouth of the sack wherein the larger female spores were contained. Here they germinated and discharged their active sperms into the eggs formed by the larger spores. This was the inception of pollen and ovule. The result of the union was an embryo that grew to a small size became packed with stored food and then became dormant and dry, a true seed. Thus the first seed plants came into existence. The seeds had a decided advantage over the chance placed spores of the ferns for the young plants were all ready to grow when favorable conditions arrived, the precarious period from the germination of the free spore to the fertilization of the egg having been greatly foreshortened and carried on in the comparative shelter of the mother plant.

The contacts between plants and animals were probably useful only to the animals for as yet the plant world was hardly sufficiently specialized to derive much benefit nor were the animals perceptive enough to be of more than accidental use to the plants.

Millions of years passed by and the jungles of the coal age were covered with hundreds

of feet of detritus, the crushed mass of wood and spores forming the great seams of latent energy, the coal we use so prodigally, stored sunhine of a bygone age. The small stock of reptiles grew in numbers and kinds till they reached their climax in the great Dinosaurs. Branching off from the smaller generalized types of these mammoth reptiles the flying dragons and from another stem the forerunners fo our modern birds came into being. The first warm blooded animals were beginning to appear as a shoot from the smaller Dinosaurs. It would seem that the cold blooded reptiles had reached as far along the different lines of development as they could; they had invaded the land the air and the water and had run the gamut of size. The one line of development they could not improve upon was the perfecting of a highly sensitive nervous system which the warm blood of the mammals permitted and thus through their quickened perceptions they slowly crowded their giant competitors from the field.

(To be Continued)

ROSE FESTIVAL

On Sunday, May 8th, a Rose Festival will be held under the auspices of the San Diego Rose Society. We are indeed fortunate in being able to have Rev. E. M. Mills, D. D., Lit. D., who is President Emeritus of the American Rose Society, conduct this service. To those of you who are unfamiliar with the work of this noble character, let me give you a bare hint as to who and what he is. Dr. Mills, is I believe, the founder of the Syracuse, New York, Rose Society and although well up in his seventies is still most active in rose activities. Late of Syracuse, he is at present living in Santa Ana. He is a writer of note, contributing some very fine articles to the American Rose Annual. Having been a minister for over a half-century he has at the request of his many friends, prepared a definite order of rose service of a general and undenominational character suitable for use throughout the country. In inaugurating an annual Sunday Rose Festival in San Diego we are fortunate having Dr. Mills with us. It is the intention to give a rose to everyone attending this service, therefore those of you who will have blooms for this purpose are urged to bring them early. Inasmuch as the Rev. Howard Bard has generously offered the use of his church the service will be held there at the Unitarian Church at Sixth and Cedar. Remember the time is the afternoon of May the eighth. Friends, let us make this, our first Rose Festival, a wonderful success and give Dr. Mills a welcome as befits such a wonderful Christian teacher and rosarian. Bring your friends and your roses, and above all, be there yourself.

S. B. O.

APRIL WEATHER IN SAN DIEGO, CALIF.

By Dean Blake.

April is the month of showers, and heavy rains are rare. Since 1850, only once has more than three inches been recorded in the city during this month, and that was in 1926. Higher temperatures in the great enclosed valleys to the east induce an indraft of cool, moist air from the Pacific, and the result is an increase in the cloudiness, and a considerable number of days with light showers.

Dynamically heated winds, locally called "desert winds", because they appear to come from the region, sometimes take place. With their advent, the temperature will rise over 80 degrees or even 90 degrees, and the relative humidity will drop as low as 10 or 15 per cent.

Frost has never been recorded in the city during April. Likewise, windstorms and squally, blustery days are unknown.

The mean maximum temperature for the month is 65 degrees; the mean minimum 52. A temperature below 40 degrees occurred but once—in 1875, and on four days the thermometer has exceeded 90 degrees. Rainfall statistics show an average of 0.67 inches, but there has never been an April without some rain, and in 1926 5.37 inches fell, a phenomonally large amount for this time of the season.

PROF. BAILEY ADMIRES ROSECROFT BEGONIA GARDENS

San Diego, Feb. 26, 1927.

Dear Mr. Robinson:

I wish to express to you my gratitude for the information you have given me on Begonias and for the abundant botanical material. For many years I have been interested in these plants and have regretted that so many of the old collections have disappeared. I was not aware that there existed in the country such a rich, varied, and healthy collection of Begonias as yours, and was astonished when I first saw it. I have now seen it three times and my admiration of it increases. Your work is a real contribution to horticulture and it preserves for us one of the most interesting and decorative groups of plants; and I congratulate you on the satisfaction you experience in the assembling and growing of the many species and varieties.

Sincerely yours, with best wishes,

(Signed. L. H. BAILEY.

Mr. Alfred D. Robinson,
Point Loma.

Editor's Note—Prof. Bailey is, as is well known, the most outstanding horticultural authority in the United States, and his endorsement of Mr. Robinson's Gardens is one to be proud of.

LATH HOUSE MATTERS

By Alfred D. Robinson.

Our Wistaria display, which promised to be the best ever, was entirely wiped out by that striped-headed sparrow. He or she or both, for I do not know whether in this case Kipling's diagnosis holds, and the female is more deadly than the male, camped in the lath house all during the storm period and picked off every wistaria bud as it reached the stage they preferred. Many visitors have called and asked, Where is the wistaria this year? and I have replied, Ask of the birds that all around with petals strewed the floor. I sorrow at the loss of the bloom crop, I hate the authors of the dispoiling, but I simply rage when I am told, But those sparrows have a cute little song. Just now, with the foliage, is appearing a secondary crop of flower buds, which though quite insignificant compared with the original, may yet be enough to tantalize with suggestions of what might have been. I hear from all sides of the mischief wrought by these sparrows, which seem to get worse year by year. Many folks have given up trying to raise an early garden because of them, while others have invested their spring hat fund in wire netting, but what can one do when new spring hat time is only a leap year event?

I have had occasion to make a new walk in my lath house right across one of the original plantings of almost twenty years ago, and in so doing dug up a lot of very old Begonias. In every instance the live roots were right on top and the old ones were sloughed off below. Of the old plants the one in best condition was a Multiflora Rosea which year by year had renewed its youth with new shoots from the base and its root system was right on top of the ground. The condition of the soil was altogether too loose, apparently everything had been washed away except old roots, etc., and after heavy rainfall it was dry. This brought to my mind the question, perennial, or perhaps remontant would be the better term, with me of leaf mold,what it is and how to use it. Samples of leaf mold submitted to me are so various that I have absolutely refused to consider acquiring any without a pedigree and a good sized sample. Leaf mold for me is not leaves, leaves used in a compost under a degree of moisture suitable for plant growth proceed with a decay that makes them into mold and in so doing are a distinct menace to plant growth both from being a foundation for rot and an incubator for fungus growth. Below the unrotted leaves is a layer of real leaf mold, sometimes quite thin, and it is this that is the best potting medium obtainable. In the catalogue of a well known Western firm, leaf mold is listed as weighing about twenty pounds a sack, an impossibly light weight for mold but possible for dry leaves. The leaf mold now supplied to me from our mountains, and which, by the way, I do not resell, weighs close to one hundred pounds a sack. I am sparing some of this precious stuff to put on that old bed, the disturbing of which caused all this discussion. While on the topic of soils I wish to record that while the white sand I got from Corona undoubtedly is safe from the fact of its being straight silica and does root cuttings, I do not judge it worth the extraordinary expense of getting it, for it is too fine for propagating purposes and tends to cake on the surface unless kept very wet, further it is like distilled water, in that it is so darned pure it provides nothing but room for roots and unless cuttings are removed from it shortly after callousing they tend to go back. I shall return to a good coarse gritty sand such as our mountains afford in many places and where possible in benches or the ground shall plant cuttings in this sand in trenches between a good growing compost. This allows for a good root growth before the need of handling arrives. Now as to that Holland peat that came so long a journey in a bale. It is very valuable in a hanging basket mixture, it forms an acceptable mulch on pots in the summer time, but holds too much moisture for the winter or dormant period and fern spores love it. I have sawed out a slab some two inches thick which I shaped to fit in a discarded self basting roaster, leaving an inch space all round which I filled loosely with moss and after two days soaking I planted fern spores on it and covered it with a pane of glass and have placed it in moderate bottom heat, that is the professional way of saying I have a brooder lamp under the bench there. I also sprinkled on the top of the peat finely broken potsherds and bits of charcoal and the tout ensemble ought to intrigue any fern spore that has gumption and a sense of humor, think of the novelty of being born and cradled in a roaster.

I am moving out specimens from under the glass into the lath house as fast as I can, maidenhair ferns and Gilsoni Begonias where out in this last rain, with us the heaviest of the season while it lasted and amounting to eighty-two hundredths, and they apparently enjoyed it. The night of April second registered a minimum of fifty-five which is very safe. Planting out of any lath house subject is now not only safe but sort of imperative.

Don't grow your tuberuos in the full shade, they will get weedy. In benches under lath they are doing finely but in another month will possibly require a thin cloth cover in addition. Under glass and also for a month a thin sheeting, Marjorie Daw, that wonderful

climbing Begonia, develops very large blooms of a delicate rose and the foliage is splendid. San Diego should plant Marjorie by the thousands.

One of the greatest obstacles to building new lathhouses is the extreme offensiveness of the new lumber and it is not helped a great deal by the green stains so often applied, now, as so often, comes K. O. Sessions to the rescue, she was present when a Mexican laborer prescribed cement mixed with sour milk to weather lumber to that so desirable grey, and in one stage of my sporadic building passed on the prescription to me, I have now thoroughly tested it and endorse it emphatically. The milk should be skimmed but need not be sour and the mixture must be thin, the consistency of a stain rather than a paint, it will appear to merely dampen the wood till it dries and its weathered effect improves for some time. It does best on rough redwood but not on finished lumber. Lath and timbers will be easiest treated before construction. The cost should be about fifty cents for five gallons.

Don't get mad if I suggest that from now on growing things will want a good deal of water and our city fathers can hardly sleep because the reservoirs are full and water is running to waste.

ANNUAL BULB SHOW

The annual Bulb Show, held in the Floral Building, in Balboa Park, March 1st, although not large, made up in beauty and quality what it lacked in size. One table, especially —that of Mr. McLoughlin of Encinitas—was surrounded by admirers all the afternoon. The Daffodils on this table were remarkable; some of incredible size—and others of such perfection as one seldom sees. The large ones—although most unusual and the largest any of the spectators had ever seen, may be valuable from a horticultural standpoint; but are not our much beloved daffodil. One feature of this exhibit was the Daffodil-Narcissus, a rare flower of which it was told there are only some six hundred bulbs in existence; and Mr. McLoughlin has about five hundred of them. The flower is like the daffodil, only pure white, small and growing three or four on the stem, as is the habit of the narcissus.

The Ranunculas around the edge of the table were not only beautiful specimens, but most artistically arranged. They were separated by clusters of Anemones in carefully chosen colors—the violet colored collection being especially good.

We feel that special mention should be made of a basket of Freesias exhibited by Miss Chanter, which was very fine.

Sweet peas, flowering shrubs and other flowers were distributed around the room; and on the whole the show was a most successful one.

A. S. HILL.

AN ODYSSEY TO A BLOOD ROOT

June, Nineteen Hundred Twenty-six, I visited the old home in Pennsylvania; collected some Blood Roots—Sanguinaria canadensis—and sent them to a skilful gardener in Southern California for trial, in the hope that they would bloom earlier in the season in this Southland, than they do in their native habitat.

They were given a chance to show their pearly white chalices in full sun also. They made the attempt, but it was no earlier in the year than they flower back east. Moreover it was such a feeble, anemic performance that they seemed to say:

"Dear enthusiast, your intentions are good, very good, but you have asked an impossible thing of me. I cannot leave my native heath where winters are cold, and snow frequently deep, and be happy. I sleep during that time of year, in a soft bed of rich mould, to awaken to the touch of the gentle zephyrs of spring as that season of the year is known where I abide; where the nights, as well as the days are warm, so much so, that the glow of youth is not dampened when the curtain of night is let down on the face of mother earth, rather, then is it fanned into a flame, and when you passed by where I grew, I was delighted to look into your face, and infuse joy into your soul.

"Your Southland may be a Paradise, so I have heard it said. Your native plants show their colors at a time when I show mine when I am at home. Then, too, when the subjects of other countries with climates similar to those of your own are introduced into your Southland, they accept your hospitality, repay you bountifully and respond generously to your request for beauty, but for me to adjust myself to such conditions is an impossible task."

And I said in reply: "Dear little Blood Root; the delight of the eye, the joy of my heart, the inspiration of many a noble thought, when, as a care free boy, I wandered through the woodlands whose floors were set with mosaics of your making. You are homesick, than which nothing so quickly takes the heart and the life out of an individual.

"Dear little friend of the days long gone by, I cannot send you back home, and in your loneliness, I mingle my tears with yours, well knowing that yours is an untimely end. Your passing I regret exceedingly. You are a sacrifice on the altar of my ambition to have a great collection of plants.

"It is not wholly selfishness on my part; rather is it a consuming desire for the companionship of a long lost friend, in whose bosom flows the rich, red wine of life. In your pure white face I saw the laughter, the innocence of a child.

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THE GARDEN

(Continued from Page 5)

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Asters and Zinnias, both seed and plants. Plant in sunny location, the American Beauty Aster is decidedly one of the best, of branching habit, very long stems, flowers incurved petals often four inches across and of excellent keeping qualities. Colors, blue, carmine, purple, pink, white, etc.

The Giant Dahlia Flowered Zinna, a gold medal winner in England, is decidedly the best type of this popular flower, often measuring five to six inches in diameter. The flowers come in exquisite shades of pink, orange and gold, primrose, crimson, deep lavender purple and many others. Zinnias do best in warm sunny locations and need plenty of water and rich soil, likewise asters.

Don't forget that April is one of the best months for planting Dahlia Bulbs, also Gladioli. In glancing over the Year Book of the California Gladiolus Society, I find the following remarks on the way to grow good Glads.

"Plant in open sunny places in beds, rows, or borders, among other light rooted plants, not too near buildings and away from trees and heavy rooted shrubs. A sandy loam is best, any good soil will do. Manure well in the fall. At planting time use only well rotted manures or commercial fertilizers. Spade not less than eight or ten inches deep. Pulverize manure and soils thoroughly. Plant six inches deep, which slows appearance of sprout through ground, but protects against heat and heavy winds. Set bulbs about six inches apart, covering with one inch of soil, then sprinkling liberally with deep fertilizer, bone meal or complete slaughter house tankage. Fill in trench with soil and firm down by walking on gound to eliminate air pockets around bulbs. If dry, water thoroughly. Cultivate thoroughly and keep soil free from weeds. Continue to use fertilizer and water thoroughly once a week getting water down to the roots. Cut Flower spike when first bud is open and keep spikes in water, change water and cut end of spike off slanting daily. Use sharp knife for all cutting. Shears crush and close channels in stem so water cannot pass through to buds. In cutting spike leave four to six leaves on plant to mature bulbs."

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Nature, in order to get a full "catch" of western yellow pine seedlings, must in an average case sow 200,000 seeds to the acre. One hundred thousand of these may germinate but when the seedlings have reached a height of one foot the vicissitudes of forest citizenship have usually reduced their ranks to a bare thousand. Of the thousand trees it is unlikely that more than 30 will reach maturity so that nature plants more than 6,500 seeds for every western yellow pine she rears, not counting those that fall before the removal of the mature trees enables them to develop.

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